



IDW

#5 • \$3.99

DRAGON AGE™



BIOWARE



www.idwpublishing.com

PAVCS
delgado

Orson Scott Card with Aaron Johnston

Anthony J. Tan

Jason P. Martin



What has come before

Gleam is a young mage who doesn't understand her own powers or know her true parentage. Her adoptive parents have been murdered, and her cousin Datlin has just been slain by the templars sent to track Gleam down. Now, with her powers dampened, Gleam and her adoptive brother Agmo have no chance of escape.

ORSON SCOTT CARD with AARON JOHNSTON, writers
ANTHONY J. TAN penciller
JASON D. MARTIN and ANTHONY J. TAN inkers
MOSSA ANDRES JOSE, colorist
RICHARD STARKINGS and
COMICRAFT'S ALBERT DESCHESNE, lettering
HUMBERTO RAMOS, cover art
EDGAR DELGADO, cover color

FOR EA COMICS:
Robert Simpson, Editor-in-Chief

FOR BLOWARE:
Mike Laidlaw, Creative Director
Mark Darrah, Executive Producer
Matthew Goldman, Art Director
David S. Silverman, Senior Product Manager
Aarin Flynn, Studio GM, BioWare Edmonton
Rox Musko and Greg Zeschuk, BioWare Co-Founders
Richard Iwanik, Director of Business Development

IDW Publishing

Operations:

Udi Adams, Chief Executive Officer
Greg Goldstein, Chief Operating Officer
Matthew Buzicka, CBA, Chief Financial Officer
Alan Davne, VP of Sales
Lorelei Bunjes, Dir. of Digital Services
AnnaMaria White, Marketing & PR Manager
Marci Hubbard, Executive Assistant
Alonso Simon, Shipping Manager
Angela Loggins, Staff Accountant
Cherrie Go, Assistant Web Designer

Editorial:

Chris Ryall, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief
Scott Dunbier, Editor, Special Projects
Andy Schmidt, Senior Editor
Bob Schreck, Senior Editor
Justin Elisinger, Editor
Kris Oprisko, Editor/Foreign Lic.
Denton J. Tipton, Editor
Tom Waltz, Editor
Mariah Huehner, Associate Editor
Carlos Guzman, Editorial Assistant

Design:

Robbie Robbins, CVD/Sr. Graphic Artist
Neil Uvelake, Art Director
Chris Moxley, Graphic Artist
Amauri Osorio, Graphic Artist
Gilberto Larceno, Production Assistant
Shawn Lee, Production Assistant

dragonage.bioware.com
www.eacomics.com
www.idwpublishing.com



IDW

DRAGON AGE #5, SEPTEMBER 2010. An EA Comics Production, published and distributed by IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 5080 Santa Fe St., San Diego, CA 92109. Contents © and TM Electronic Arts Inc. and are used with permission. All rights reserved. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC.

Printed in Korea. IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. FIRST PRINTING





WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, GLEAM?

YOU'RE GOING TO GO ON TO GWAREN AND FIND DATLIN'S FAMILY. THEY'LL TAKE YOU IN. YOU'RE THEIR NEPHEW.



MAYBE WE CAN ESCAPE.

I CAN'T MAKE FIRE, ASMO. THEY'VE DISPELLED MY POWERS SOMEHOW.

BESIDES, WE CAN'T OULTRIN THEM. THEY HAVE HORSES.



BUT--

I'M NOT GOING TO RISK LOSING YOU, TOO.

THEN I'M COMING WITH YOU. I'M NOT LEAVING YOU ALONE WITH THESE PEOPLE.

HERE.



YOU TWO MUST BE HUNGRY.

WE DON'T WANT YOUR FOOD.

YOU SAY THAT NOW. BUT IN A FEW HOURS I THINK YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND.



I SUGGEST YOU EAT IT BEFORE THE ANTS DO.



IF YOU TELL ME YOUR FATHER'S NAME AND WHERE YOU'RE FROM, I'LL SEND WORD TO HIM THAT YOU'RE SAFE.

YES, WE COULDN'T BE SAFER HERE SURROUNDED BY MURDERERS.



OUR FATHER'S DEAD.

MOTHER TOO. THEY WERE KILLED A FEW DAYS AGO.



THEN YOU HAVE MY CONDOLENCES.

BUT SURELY YOU DON'T HAVE THE SAME PARENTS. YOU LOOK NOTHING ALIKE.

JUST BECAUSE GLEAM WAS ADOPTED DOESN'T MEAN SHE'S NOT MY SISTER.



ADOPTED?

WHEN? WHO WERE YOUR TRUE PARENTS?

TAKE YOUR FOOD, TEMPLAR. AND LET US GRIEVE OUR COUSIN IN PEACE.



PLEASE.





THIS PLACE.
I'M IN THE FADE
AGAIN.

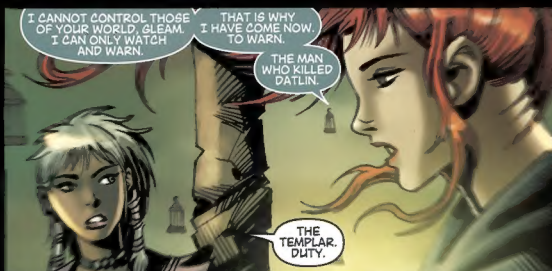
THE
DREAM
REALM,
YES.



AND
YOU'RE
STUCK
HERE?

I CHOOSE TO
BE HERE, GLEAM.
TO WATCH OVER
YOU.

THEN WHY DIDN'T
YOU STOP THOSE WHO KILLED
MY ADOPTED PARENTS? OR DATLIN?
WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP HIS DEATH?
WERE YOU NOT WATCHING THEM?



I CANNOT CONTROL THOSE
OF YOUR WORLD, GLEAM.
I CAN ONLY WATCH
AND WARN.

THAT IS WHY
I HAVE COME NOW.
TO WARN.

THE MAN
WHO KILLED
DATLIN.

THE
TEMPLAR.
DUTY.



HIS NAME
IS NOT DUTY. THAT
IS THE FALSE NAME HE
HAS GIVEN HIMSELF.
HIS TRUE NAME IS
SADATT. AND HE
IS YOUR—







DUTY!
WAKE UP.



THEIR TRACKS
HEAD NORTH, ALONG
WITH A THIRD SET OF
PRINTS, SMALL ONES,
LIKE A DWARF'S.



I WANT
THEM TAKEN
ALIVE.

ALIVE?
BUT—

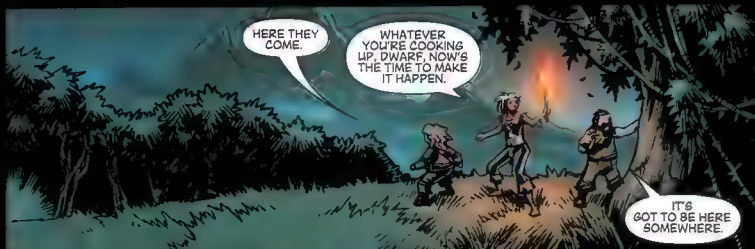


THAT IS MY ORDER,
MARCUS. DO YOU
QUESTION IT?

...NO,
SIR.



"THEN GET MOVING.
ALL OF YOU."







KLANK



WHERE
ARE WE?

THE DEEP
ROADS, A NETWORK
OF UNDERGROUND
ROADS THAT CRISSCROSS
ALL OF FERELDEN.
DWARVES BUILT THEM
CENTURIES AGO.

LOOKS
DESERTED.

MOST ROADS
WERE SEALED OFF
LONG AGO. THEY'RE
PRISONS FOR THE
DARKSPAWN
NOW.



DARKSPAWN? LIKE
HURLOCKS?

HURLOCKS,
GENLOCKS, OGRES,
SHRIEKS, ALL MANNER
OF HELL-BEASTS.

BUT DON'T WORRY.
THERE ARE NONE HERE.
THIS IS ONE OF THE LAST
TRUE ROADS.



SO IT'S
SAFE?

HARDLY. WE
TAKE A GREAT
RISK PASSING
THROUGH
HERE.

BUT WE'RE
SAFE FROM
TEMPLARS. THEY
CAN'T TRACK US
UNDERGROUND

ONCE WE'RE
THROUGH THE
MOUNTAIN WE'LL
RESURFACE



WHY DO YOU
KEEP HELPING US,
MINDEREL?

MY MASTER SENT
ME TO FOLLOW YOU.
IF YOU CAN MAKE SWORDS
AS SHARP AS YOU SAY,
I'M TO BRING YOU BACK
TO THE DWARF
FORGES.



AND I'VE
TOLD YOU I'M
NOT GOING.

THE
TEMPLARS WON'T
REST UNTIL THEY FIND
YOU NOW. YOUR ONLY
SAFE REFUGE IS
UNDERGROUND WITH
THE DWARVES.

AGMO CAN COME
AS WELL. I'LL TELL
MY MASTER THAT YOUR
STIPULATION WAS THAT HE
PROVIDE FOR BOTH OF
YOU.



MAYBE WE SHOULD,
GLEAM. FOR A TIME,
AT LEAST.

SO WE
WON'T HAVE TO
CONSTANTLY
WATCH OUR
BACKS.



THWAK

NNGHH!



AGMO!
MINDEREL,
WHAT IS THIS?

RUN!









MINDEREL!

...NNGG.



YOUR
LEG. IT'S...
BROKEN.

FORGET THE BREAK.
FIRST THE VENOM.
YOU'VE GOT TO GET THE
VENOM OUT AND STOP
THE BLEEDING.

HURRY

HOW?



YOUR HAND. PUT
YOUR FINGERS INTO
THE WOUND.

JUST
DO IT.

WHAT?



NNGGH!

NOW REACH
OUT WITH
YOUR HEALING
POWER. FIND THE
VENOM. YOU CAN
SENSE IT. A DARK
FEELING.



YES...
I CAN FEEL
IT.

GOOD. NOW
BURN IT UP. NOT
WITH FIRE. BURN IT
WITH YOUR MIND.
SEE IT MELTING
AWAY.



I DID IT.
I THINK
I DID IT.

GOOD. NOW
YOU NEED
TO SET THE
BONE.

WHEN I TELL
YOU I WANT YOU
TO PULL MY FOOT
TOWARD YOU
HARD.



SHOULDN'T
I HEAL IT FIRST
WITH—

NO! NO,
YOU CAN'T HEAL
IT CROOKED. I'VE
ALREADY LOST AN ARM.
I CAN'T AFFORD A
CRIPPLED LEG.



IF I PASS OUT,
KEEP PULLING UNTIL
IT SNAPS INTO PLACE.
THEN HEAL IT
ALL SHUT.

I DON'T
THINK I CAN
DO THIS.

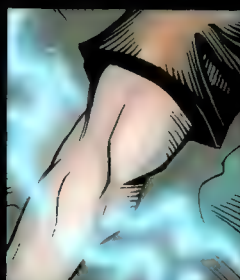


YOU CAN
YOU HAVE TO.
ON THREE.

ONE

TWO

THREE!









JUST WHEN YOU
THINK YOU'VE KILLED
EVERY VILLAGER AND
ALL THE FUN IS OVER
A FEW MORE POP OUT
OF THE GROUND.

*To Be
Continued!*



in the next issue of:

DRAGON AGE™

IDW PUBLISHING IN SEPTEMBER: COUNTING DOWN

Dispatches from IDW's Chief Creative Officer, Chris Ryall

As kids across the land prepare for the new school year beginning this month, they arm themselves with all the proper tools—pens and paper, iPads and cellphones, a backpack and... a Machete?

Well, maybe not that last one. But while school metal detectors might block you from carrying an actual machete into class, we fully encourage you carrying a copy of *Machete* into school. That is, the new comic we're doing in tandem with filmmaker and *Machete* creator **Robert Rodriguez**. The #0 issue releasing this month leads directly into the new movie, and is scripted by Rodriguez and **Aaron Kaufman**. In the issue, learn just who managed to "piss off the wrong Mexican," and what led Machete to pick up the blades in the first place. *Death Ship's* **Stuart Sayger** is handling the art for the issue, under menacing covers by **Zach Howard** and **Juan Doe**.

We're also aiming to be Number One with a Bullet in September with an all-new weekly issue that ships every week of September, even the fifth "skip" week.

Actually, I guess it's more accurate to say we're looking to be Number One through Five with five bullets, in the form of *5 Days to Die*. This fast-paced crime tale comes from writer **Andy Schmidt** and artist **Chee**, and features covers by some of the

biggest names in comics: **David Finch** (#1); **Mike Oeming** (#2); **Ben Templesmith** (#3); **Gabriel Dell'Otto** (#4) and **Pablo Raimondi** (#5).

Also shipping on a more frequent schedule this month is a new TRANSFORMERS miniseries, DRIFT. Drift, a character introduced in *All Hail Megatron*, recently became the first IDW Transformers character to be turned into an actual toy, and now the sword-wielding 'bot is the star of his own four-part bi-weekly miniseries. Written by *AHM* scribe **Shane McCarthy** and featuring fan-favorite **Alex Milne** on art—with variant covers by the artist/co-creator **Guido Guidi**, Drift delves into the character's backstory and really explains how the former-Deception-turned-Autobot came to be.

See the full list below to see what else we're springing on you this fall: a career pictorial overview of artist **Jim Starlin's** cosmic odysseys; Dean Haspiel's autobiographical exploits, **J. Scott Campbell's** 12 months of fairy-tale reimagining's, a certain spinach-eating sailor's book, and much more.

I'll see you next month for a slew of Halloween-related titles. Have a good 30 days!



IDW

SEPTEMBER RELEASES FROM IDW PUBLISHING

COMICS • COMICS • COMICS • COMICS • COMICS • COMICS • COMICS

5 Days to Die #1
5 Days to Die #2
5 Days to Die #3
5 Days to Die #4
5 Days to Die #5

Weekly Books

Angel #37
Doctor Who #15
Dragon Age #5
Eternal Descent #4
G.I. Joe #22
G.I. Joe: A Real American Hero #158
G.I. Joe: Cobra #8
G.I. Joe: Cobra Special #2
G.I. Joe: Hearts and Minds #5
G.I. Joe: Origins #19
Jurassic Park #4
Kill Shakespeare #5
Kodiak one-shot
Last Unicorn #4
Machete #0
Midnight Movie:
It, The Terror From Beyond Space #3
The Murder of King Tut #4
Mystery Society #4

Phoenix Without Ashes #2
Spike: The Devil You Know #4
Star Trek: Burden of Knowledge #4
Star Trek: Captain's Log: Pike one-shot
Starstruck #13
Strange Science Fantasy #3
Transformers #11
Transformers: Drift #1 | Bi-Weekly Books
Transformers: Drift #2
Transformers: Sector 7 #1
True Blood #3



GRAPHIC NOVELS

ART BOOKS • SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Amazing True Stories: Ellis Island TPB
Angel: Barbary Coast TPB
Archie: Best of Stan Goldberg TPB
Army of Two, Vol. 1 TPB
Art of Jim Starlin HC • S&N HC
Blondie, Vol. 1 HC
Bram Stoker's Death Ship TPB
G.I. Joe: Operation Hiss TPB
Graphic New York Presents
Dean Haspiel-The Early Years
Grimm's Fairy Tales TPB
IDW Double Feature:
Belles of the Bayou TPB
J. Scott Campbell's
Fairytales Fantasies 2011 Calendar
Li'l Abner, Vol. 1 HC
Lone Justice, Vol. 1 TPB
Popeye: The Best Comic Book Stories
of Bud Sagendorf HC
Singularity 7—New Printing TPB
Tank Girl: The Royal Escape TPB
Top 100 Horror Movies TPB
Transformers IDW Collection Vol. 2 HC
We Will Bury You TPB
Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper TPB

NEW TITLES FROM IDW IN SEPTEMBER!

